

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 10227 302050Z

67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1930

INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, VE

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN: PEREZJIMENISTAS CONTINUE
DIVIDED

REF: CARACAS 9903

1. AT A NOVEMBER 29 NEWS CONFERENCE RETIRED GENERAL LUIS FELIPE LLOVERA PAEZ, LEADER OF THE PEREZJIMENISTA PARTIDO NACIONAL INTEGRACIONISTA (PNI) PROCLAIMED HIS REJECTION OF THE ELECTORAL POSITION OF EX-DICTATOR MARCOS PEREZ JIMENEZ (PJ) (REFTEL AND HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR PEDRO TINOCO, THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE PNI'S ELECTORAL ALLY, THE DESARROLLISTAS. LLOVERA SAID THAT PJ'S REFUSAL TO BACK A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WAS A POLITICAL MISTAKE AND ADMITTED THAT THE HOLD OF PJ ON HIS FOLLOWERS HAS SUFFERED SINCE THE ENACTMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT MAKING HIM INELIGIBLE FOR THE PRESIDENCY. HE ADDED THAT IN JANUARY 1974 THE PNI AND DESARROLLISTAS WOULD UNITE TO FORM A NEW PARTY, TO BE CALLED THE PARTIDO NACIONAL DE INTEGRACION Y DESARROLLO (PAID).

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PAGE 02 CARACA 10227 302050Z

2. ELSEWHERE IN THE RANKS OF THE PEREZJIMENISTAS, DIVISION AND DISARRAY CONTINUE TO PREVAIL. THE CRUZADA CIVICA NACIONALISTA (CCN), NOW WITHOUT A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SINCE THE WITHDRAWAL OF PABLO SALAS CASTILLO, SEEMS TO BE LOSING SUPPORT FROM SOME VOTERS UNWILLING TO ABSTAIN IN THE PRESIDENTIAL VOTING. ALEJANDRO GOMEZ SILVA, THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE FRENTE UNIDO NACIONALISTA (FUN), APPEARS TO WANT TO STEP DOWN AS A CANDIDATE IF HE CAN STRIKE AN ELECTORAL ALLIANCE WITH ANOTHER PARTY, BUT SO FAR HE HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN THAT ENDEAVOR. THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA INDEPENDIENTE (MDI), RAIMUNDO VERDE ROJAS, HAS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE HAS NO CHANCE OF WINNING, BUT HAS DECLARED HE WILL REMAIN IN THE RACE UNTIL THE BITTER END.
MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

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